



**Minutes of the
ALAMEDA FREE LIBRARY BOARD MEETING
December 9, 2009**

The regular meeting of the Alameda Free Library Board was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mike Hartigan, President
Karen Butter, Vice President
Suzanne Whyte, Board Member
Kristy Perkins, Board Member

Absent: Gail Wetzork, Board Member

Staff: Jane Chisaki, Library Director
Marsha Merrick, Recording Secretary

CONSENT CALENDAR

An asterisk indicates items so accepted or approved on the Consent Calendar.

- A. *Report from the Library Director Highlighting Activities for December 2009. Accepted.
- B. *Draft Minutes of the Regular Library Board Meeting of November 12, 2009. Approved.
- C. *Library Services Report for the Month of October 2009. Accepted.
- D. *Financial Report Reflecting FY10 Expenditures by Fund for November 2009. Accepted.
- E. *Bills for Ratification for the Month of November 2009. Approved.

President Hartigan asked for two changes to the November meetings draft minutes under item 4. A. In relation to the Neighborhood Library Improvement Project, the draft minutes stated the project was "...now into the construction phase..." which should have read "...now into the construction *documents* phase...". Additionally, there was a statement from a Noll & Tam letter regarding how they had based their soft costs "...on a construction budget of 1.6 million" which should have read "on a construction budget of 2.1 million". Recording Secretary Merrick will make these changes to the minutes as noted.

President Hartigan asked if the number of open hours were going to be added to the services report as it would be useful for comparisons. Director Chisaki will make the addition. Vice President Butter noted the large difference in database search numbers; Chisaki explained these are counted differently now. Hartigan asked why Internet log-ins were unavailable last year; this was due to the switch-over from Veicon. Butter noted that adult circulation needs to go up; Chisaki will check with other libraries to see what their numbers look like. Member Whyte asked what "New Items" included; Chisaki explained that these are books, DVDs, etc. and they are counted when they are all processed and "shelf-ready".

President Hartigan asked for a motion to approve the Consent Calendar as presented, noting the wording changes in the November meeting minutes. Vice President Butter so moved; Member Whyte seconded the motion which carried by a 4-0 vote.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS, NON-AGENDA (Public Comment)

Marc Lambert said that he had appreciated the piece on former board member, Dr. Alan Mitchell, who had recently passed away.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Neighborhood Library Improvement Project (G. Wetzork)

Director Chisaki described the branch improvement project for new member Kristy Perkins, and also shared a picture of the proposed new sign that will be put in front of the Bay Farm Island branch. Member Whyte inquired if there is any current signage out on Bay Farm that directs you to the Library's location, as she was hard put to find anything. Chisaki said there is a sign with an arrow pointing the way, but it's pretty small. Member Whyte stated that it was well hidden. Chisaki talked a little bit about the art that might go into the branches. Vice President Butter asked if it was possible to get a continuous timeline of the branch project's status, similar to what they had when the new Main was being built. Chisaki will put this together for the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Alameda Free Library Foundation (J. Chisaki)

The last "Live @ the Library" concert had been held featuring the Advanced High School Jazz Workshop, and Director Chisaki said they were fantastic. There will be a wrap-up meeting the following week; the Foundation learned a lot by putting these on. The Walter Mayes program was a great success as well. Lots of teachers attended although not many from Alameda. There will be no Foundation meeting in December.

B. Friends of the Alameda Free Library (M. Lambert)

Marc Lambert also agreed that the "Live @ the Library" concert had been a hit. The Friday Night Flights at Angela's had netted the Alameda Reads Literacy Program over \$600 which was quite impressive. There will be no Friends meeting in December.

C. Patron Suggestions/Comments (Speak-Outs) and Library Director's Response

None.

LIBRARY BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

President Hartigan heartily agreed with Chisaki on her praise of the musicians, and gave the Foundation a big thank you for putting on such a tremendous program. Vice President Butter had thought the series had been a nice diverse selection of high quality music, and Luzanne Engh deserved a tremendous amount of credit for pulling it all together.

President Hartigan gave a nice welcome to new member Kristy Perkins and asked new members Whyte and Perkins to say a little about what brought them to sit on the Library Board. Hartigan and Vice President Butter shared their backgrounds as well.

President Hartigan thanked Dr. Mitchell for his service, and said it had been fun to be on the Board with him. Director Chisaki will put something in an upcoming edition of the Library newsletter. It was suggested that the Foundation might want to put on some kind of event and dedicate it to Dr. Mitchell.

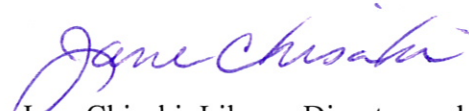
DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

The funding for the solar panels came in. Public Works will be in charge of the project, with City Engineer Barbara Hawkins as the lead, and Trung Nguyen as the second. They have 34 months to complete the project.

ADJOURNMENT

President Hartigan asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 p.m. Member Whyte so moved; Vice President Butter seconded the motion which carried by a 4-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,



Jane Chisaki, Library Director and
Secretary to the Alameda Free Library Board